



EZOTHUKELA NEWS

Keeping you informed, all the times!

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Premier Ntuli addressing the audience during the event

PREMIER VISITS UTHUKELA DISTRICT THROUGH OPERATION SUKUMA SAKHE CABINET DAY

As part of the provincial government's ongoing commitment to improving service delivery, the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal, Honourable Thami Ntuli together with his cabinet and local leadership held Operation Sukuma Sakhe (OSS) Cabinet Day. This milestone event was organised at Mdwebu Sportsfield in Ntabamhlophe under Inkosi Langaibalele Local Municipality.

This engagement formed part of a strategic platform which is designed to foster direct interaction between government leadership and communities. Through this initiative, citizens were afforded an opportunity to raise concerns and received updates on service delivery matters from the Honourable Premier, MECs, and local government leadership.

Premier Ntuli, the MECs and Mayors, including Councillors, first conducted oversight visits across various wards within the uThukela District Municipality. These visits focused on assessing the progress of government programmes, inspecting community devel-

opment initiatives, and engaging with residents and service providers on the ground.

Taking to the podium, Premier Ntuli assured the community that they were not there to just give a pep talk but they wanted to see what various government departments are doing on the ground to help the people. He encouraged the people to get up and build together with government.

"People should be self-reliant and not depend on government. We want you to be eyes and ears of the police and help us to identify and bring the perpetrators to justice. We must start to deal with petty crimes first and then to more serious crimes. We must work together to rebuild our province", said Honourable Ntuli.

The Premier called upon all parties in the fight against crime and corruption to make sure that everyone has a safer environment. Teenage pregnancy was highlighted as a serious problem. Mr Ntuli said

parents need to teach their children about negative experiences of having babies while they are still young.

This should also involve teaching young boys the correct way of behaviour. He also said that the MECs and Mayors should play a leading role to overcome this problem. He then encouraged people to take care of and protect their children. Honourable Ntuli said good nutrition is important for the development of healthy children and the nation as a whole.

The KwaZulu Natal provincial government is working to improve road infrastructure for total development. The Premier urged the departments to work to ensure that people have access to their services. Mr Ntuli also acknowledged seven (7) Centenarians, aged between 103 and 108 years old, and were given food parcels, certificates of recognition and blankets as tokens of appreciation and respect.

He said they were the only ones who were giving life to everyone. Respect always plays a vital part in living a healthy lifestyle. Premier Ntuli concluded by saying that these elderly people are a symbol of hope and happiness.



UTHukela Deputy Mayor Mkhize with ILM Mayor Myeza and UThukela Mayor Inkosi Shabalala

Inside this issue:

- 1 Minister Hlabisa hands over Ekvukeni Water Project
- 2 UThukela invests R64 million for water project
- 3 Mayor's Operation Khipa Amanzi Programme
- 4 UThukela delivers sanitation project to communities
- 5 Township & Rural tourism conference
- 6 Launch of 16 Days of Activism campaign

UTHUKELA DISTRICT INVESTS OVER R34 MILLION FOR THE UPGRADE OF A WATER SCHEME

His Worship the Mayor of UThukela District, Inkosi NB Shabalala introduced two water contractors during a community meeting that was held in Bethany under Okhahlamba Local Municipality. The purpose of this meeting was to inform residents and affected Councillors about the upcoming work of over R34 million and the appointed companies.

The UThukela District's objectives are to provide an adequate and reliable source of water to the local communities within Wards 11, 12, 13 and 15, through the implementation of a specialist contract. This comprises the abstraction from uThukela River, rising main, installation of new pre-fabricated galvanised reservoirs and

the construction of a new pump station to the villages of Woodford, Bethany and Action homes.

Mayor Shabalala then introduced the Impande Consulting Engineers and Sinako Engineering Group for the Upgrade of the Bergville Bulk Water Supply System. The project is envisaged to take up to 12 months to complete and is expected to be completed in twelve months and about 30 temporal job opportunities will be created for the locals. The Mayor then urged the residents to take care of the infrastructure and report any suspicious acts of sabotage and vandalism.

"We are here today to introduce two contractors that will under-

take the work of upgrading the Bergville bulk water scheme. This project will provide water supply to the communities in four wards. The good thing about this project is that it will also create temporary jobs for the local communities during the construction phase", Inkosi Shabalala explained.

The community was so excited about the prospects of the project and hoped that it will bring about much needed relief to all residents who are affected by water shortages.



Water Restoration Programme Called Operation Khipha Amanzi

The Honourable Mayor, Inkosi NB Shabalala, has launched a new initiative called Operation Khipha Amanzi, themed “Where water once flowed, it will flow again!”, officially began in KwaSomsuku Ward 30, under the Alfred Duma Local Municipality.

This programme demonstrates uThukela District Municipality’s commitment to ensuring that where water once flowed, it will flow again. The main goal of Operation Khipha Amanzi is to identify areas experiencing water supply challenges and dedicate sufficient time and resources to fixing all related issues.

The ultimate aim is to ensure that residents in those areas have access to a reliable and consistent water supply. Currently, the KwaSomsuku community has started receiving water again after a long period without supply. Work is still ongoing as technical teams continue

repairing damaged infrastructure to restore full water functionality.

The Mayor highlighted that many other communities across the district are also in need of similar interventions and assured residents that the programme will continue to reach all other affected areas in due course. The Mayor, who was accompanied by Ward Councillor Madondo, uThukela District Speaker Cllr TY Nqubuka, Cllr Buthelezi, Cllr Mjiyakho, and Cllr Mhlongo, visited the KwaSomsuku community where the programme was officially introduced to local residents.

He expressed sincere appreciation to the KwaSomsuku community for their patience and cooperation during the water shortages. He confirmed that the area now benefits from upgrades linked to the Ekuvukeni Water Scheme, which forms part of a long-term, sustainable water

supply solution for the region. The Mayor also urged community members to repair any broken or leaking taps to ensure that water is used responsibly and shared fairly among all households.

As a gesture of goodwill and compassion, Inkosi Shabalala donated a JoJo tank to a community member in need, who is caring for a child with a disability, to assist them in accessing water. Community members expressed their gratitude to uThukela District Municipality for restoring their water supply and also raised requests for improvements to the local sanitation system.



Inkosi Shabalala with Councillors handing over water tank to the community



Community members in attendance



UThukela Invests More Than R60 Million To Improve Water Supply

The UThukela District Municipality, under the leadership of His Worship the Mayor, Inkosi NB Shabalala, has officially broken the ground by investing more than R60 million for the Amangwe Abstraction and Water Works Construction Water Supply Project. This after a sod turning ceremony that was held at Mpophomeni Community Hall, in Ward 1 under Inkosi Langalibalele Local Municipality.

This landmark occasion marked the official commencement of a critical water infrastructure project that will bring long-awaited relief to the communities of Amangwe and surrounding areas. The project aims to improve water abstraction and treatment capacity, ensuring residents have access to clean, safe, and reliable water a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of dignity and development.

The sod-turning ceremony was led by Mayor Inkosi Shabalala, accompanied by Executive Councillors and the Municipal Administration Team, in a united celebration of this important milestone. The event demonstrated UThukela’s unwavering commitment to addressing the persistent water challenges facing the district and to accelerating service delivery through sustainable water infrastructure development.

In his keynote address, Mayor Shabalala reaffirmed the municipality’s dedication to serving its people and ensuring that no community

is left behind. “Water is not just a service it is life itself. This project symbolises progress, hope, and our deep commitment to the people of Amangwe. As UThukela District Municipality, we are determined to continue improving water infrastructure across all wards so that every household can enjoy this basic right,” said Inkosi Shabalala.

The Mayor further emphasised the importance of community participation and collaboration in protecting and maintaining water infrastructure once operational. Local residents warmly welcomed the launch of the project, describing it as a long-awaited answer to their daily struggles with inconsistent water supply. Many expressed heartfelt gratitude to UThukela District Municipality for listening to their needs and taking decisive action to improve their living conditions.

“We are truly grateful to the municipality and to the Mayor for bringing this project to our area. For many years, we have faced challenges with water shortages, but today we can see real change beginning. UThukela has shown that they care about our communities,” said one local resident. Inkosi Langalibalele Mayor, Cllr M Myeza, also commended UThukela’s leadership for prioritising rural develop-

ment and investing in infrastructure that directly benefits ordinary citizens.

The project will create about 40 local job opportunities during the construction phase and also benefit communities across Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 24. The appointed contractors are Owethu Owabo Consultation in association with JG Afrika, and R and D Contractor. Construction is scheduled to commence on 1 November 2025 and will run for a duration of 18 months.

As a gesture of goodwill, Mayor Shabalala donated beads, a sewing machine, and a drum to the local community, reinforcing UThukela’s continued support for community empowerment and development.



Inkosi Shabalala speaking to the community members in attendance



Community members packed the hall

UMPHAKATHI WAS' OQUNGWINI UHLOMULE NGENTUTHUKO YAMANZI

Umkhandlu wesiFunda UThukela uqhubekela phambili ekuletheleni imiphakathi ewakhele ngentuthuko. Lokhu kuphinde kwavele ngenkathi ubuholi buhambele endaweni yaso Qungwini ngaphansi kukamasipala iAlfred Duma. Lomkhandlu ubuhambisele lomphakathi ngengqalasisinda yamanzi okungamapayipi kwazise phela amathangi kade sevele ehanjisiwe ngaphambilini.

UCllr Mvelase nobebambe uSekela Meya uCllr MC Mkhize, nokubikwe ukuthi ubanjwe eminye imisebenzi, utshele lomphakathi ukuthi kunethimba ebelifika oThukela lidinga usizo lwamanzi. Uchaze wathi lelithimba lakuyo lendawo laba nesu abeza nala mayelana nendawo enamazi

khona laphaya. "Lesiphethu bathi sidinga ukubiyelwa siphinde sifakelwe amapayipi ukuze abantu bekwazi ukuthola amanzi ahlanzekile. Sikwazile ukuthi siwulekelele umphakathi ngosizo lwamapayipi kanye namathangi", kuchaza uCllr Mvelase.

Uphinde wachaza nokuthi ngokusho kuka Sekela Meya, ithimba elizolekelela ukufaka amapayipi phansi kwakulindeleke ukuthi liqalise ukusebenza khona ngakusasa (ngolwesibili, 21 October).

Ihhovisi lika Meya yilona elivumile ukuthi lomphakathi uthole usizo oludingayo. Umphakathi uyithakasele kakhulu lenkulumo. Ubaba uKhaladi Xaba, noyingxenywe yethimba elafaka isicelo oThukela, uchaze wathi lokhu kuza emva kwesikhalo

esikhulu somphakathi lapho wawukhala khona ngokwentuleka kwamanzi.

Namuhla uyajabula ngoba nakhu phela izikhalo zabo kubukeka sengathi zizwakele. Ubonge kakhulu umkhandlu wesiFunda uThukela ngokugcina izethembiso zawo. Khona manjalo elinye futhi ilunga lomphakathi uMnuz Gwala yena ubonge kakhulu ukuthi bethole intuthuko endaweni yangakubo.

Imisele lapho kuzohamba khona amapayipi isigujiwe ibanga elide impela ukusuka emathangini. Kuzobe sekuba nohlelo lokulandelela ukubheka ukuthi umsebenzi uqhubeka futhi uphetha ngokohlelo olukhona.



Cllr Mvelase with Mr Mthi, Public Participation Manager



MAYOR CONTINUES TO BRING WATER TO THE COMMUNITY WITH OPERATION KHIPHA AMANZI

The UThukela District Municipality, led by His Worship the Mayor, Inkosi NB Shabalala visited eMahlabathini area in Ward 36 under Alfred Duma Local



Mayor Shabalala speaking to the media

Municipality. The purpose of the visit was to restore hope to the community after more than a decade of surviving without water.

This area which also includes KwaHlathi, and have long-awaited for a miracle to happen as they struggle with consistent water supply. This meeting which was held at the packed community hall, saw Alfred Duma Deputy Mayor Cllr S. Simelane, who is also a ward councillor in this area, praised the

UThukela Mayor for keeping his promises.

He said they were honoured by the Mayor's visit and equally, they were grateful for what Inkosi Shabalala has done for his community after waiting for almost 15 years to receive running water.

Addressing the community, Mayor Shabalala reminded them that the uThukela District Municipality is mandated to supply clean, safe and drinkable water to its communities. He said they are keeping their focus in deep rural areas through Operation Khipha Amanzi as they continue to deliver to make sure that everyone has access to water supply.

The Mayor assured the residents of Ward 36 that the municipality is doing its best to provide clean water to all its residents. He went on to say that uThukela Water technical teams are working tirelessly to maintain the quality of water and improve the old infrastructure across the district.

The Mayor then urged all community members to protect their

water infrastructure because water is a necessity, as one cannot live without. He also urged the residents to use water sparingly, and that they should not use it anyhow. "This water is not meant for watering the gardens and not for animals but it is meant for human consumption. Water will be pumped from Ekuvukeni to supply wards 32 to 36".

"Low lying areas will be the first to receive water supply, of which some of them are already receiving, and the high lying areas will have to wait a little longer", said the Mayor.

Induna Mngomezulu thanked the Mayor for what he has done for his subjects and for working hard to improve their livelihoods. The Mayor was accompanied by uThukela Deputy Mayor Cllr MC Mkhize, Alfred Duma Deputy Mayor Cllr S Simelane, Speaker Cllr TY Nqubuka, Induna Mngomezulu, uThukela Management and Councilors.



Inkosi Shabalala with Cllr Mkhize, Cllr Nqubuka, Councilors and MM Jili

NDALELA HIGH REWARDS TOP ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Ndalela High School in Burford area has organised school awards ceremony to celebrate student achievements, boosts confidence, and inspire growth by recognizing hard work and dedication. This prestigious event was graced by the presence of the uThukela District Mayor Inkosi NB Shabalala, School Governing Body (SGB) Chairperson MM Khoza, Circuit Manager Dr Molefe, Guest Speakers Mr MO Kubheka and other distinguished guests.



Mayor Shabalala with Principal Mbatha and Circuit Manager Dr Molefe

The purpose of this event was to recognise and celebrate academic excellence as well as to encourage learners to take advantage of the opportunities available. In essence, these awards motivate learners and educators to strive for excellence, pushing them to reach their

full potential through hard work. The awards were handed to top 3 learners in each grade and teachers in their respective categories from Grades 8 to 12 top achievers and in sports categories.

Trophies and accompanying certificates were awarded to top performers. In her speech Dr Molefe thanked Ndalela educators for their dedication and commitment towards the benefit of their learners. She said if one works hard enough they are likely to succeed in every aspect of life. Mr Khoza said as members of the SGB and parents, they were very humbled by this occasion as they were proud to see their learners achieving high academically.

Mayor Shabalala remarked on the importance of education because, as he said, it is key to success. "My mes-

sage to the learners is that you are the ambassadors of your school and your home. If you do well, you elevate your school and home and when you do bad, you let your school and your home down. You must make your parents feel proud about you. Matric is not an ultimate success but a key to success", the Mayor explained. He then encouraged learners to work hard to succeed.

Guest Speaker Mr MO Kubheka who was one of the top learners some years ago at Ndalela High, and now owns his law firm gave words of encouragement to learners. He said that no matter what background one comes from they can make it in life. He further stated that life is not easy for everyone, so learners must keep their focus on their studies to elevate themselves and their families. The event was jointly sponsored by the UThukela District Municipality together with other stakeholders.



UThukela Delivers Sanitation Project To Local Communities

The UThukela District Municipality continues with its mission to uplift communities by restoring human dignity through improved service delivery. The District Mayor, Inkosi NB Shabalala, together with his team of Councillors and Traditional Leaders, officially introduced a contractor who will undertake the construction of precast VIP toilets in Gqumaweni Ward 13 and Bethani Ward 15 on Wednesday.

On a Thursday, Speaker TY Nqubuka represented UThukela District Municipality as she visited Emcijeni Ward 8 and Ezimambeni Ward 9. All these wards are under Okhahlamba Local Municipality. This initiative follows a thorough assessment of the sanitation challenges faced by these communities.

In total, 200 precast VIP toilets will be built, 50 in Gqumaweni, 50 in Bethani, 50 in Emcijeni and also 50 in Ezimambeni benefitting around 200 households. The project will also create 60 temporary job opportunities for local residents (15 in each area), helping to stimulate the local economy. The con-

struction is expected to take approximately six months to complete.

This project forms part of UThukela's broader strategy to address sanitation backlogs across the district. The appointed contractor, DLV Project Managers and Engineers (PTY) Ltd, will ensure that these toilets meet required safety and quality standards. Each VIP toilet will include a ventilation system to reduce odour and promote hygiene.

According to the design specifications, a 1.2-metre pit will be dug before installation to ensure the system operates efficiently, requiring desludging only after more than a year, depending on household usage. These concrete slab structures are a crucial step towards improving living conditions and restoring dignity in the community.

During the introductions of the contractor, Mayor Inkosi Shabalala and Speaker Nqubuka emphasized that this sanitation project is one of many being implemented across

the district, and it reflects their commitment to improving the lives of communities. "It is essential that we provide dignified basic services through reliable water and sanitation infrastructure. There are also water projects in the pipeline for this community, including the fixing of existing boreholes", said the Mayor.

The communities of these areas have warmly welcomed and appreciated the project, expressing gratitude for the continued efforts of the District Mayor and UThukela District Municipality. The municipality remains committed in ensuring that every household has access to hygienic sanitation facilities in their areas of residence.



Speaker Nqubuka addressing the community



Mayor and Councillors during a sod-turning ceremony

UTHUKELA LUHAMBISE INTUTHUKO EMIPHAKATHINI YASE ALFRED DUMA

USomlomo woMkhandlu we-siFunda uThukela uhambele imiphakathi emibili eyakhele uMasipala iAlfred Duma. Inhloso bekungukuyophendula isoyi lokwakhiwa kwezindlu zangasese. Umhlangano wokuqala ububanjelwe endaweni yakwa Godi ngaphansi kuka Khansela uKhoza kwathi umhlangano wesibili wabanjelwa ehlo lomphakathi Ezimbuzini ngaphansi kuka Khansela uZikalala.

USomlomo ngokuthunywa uMeya Inkosi NB Shabalala ubehambise intuthuko emayelana nokwakhiwa kwezindlu zangasese ezinesithunzi. Ube esethula khona usonkontileka wenkampani yakwa DLV Construction nezokwenza lomsebenzi ngokukhulu ukushesha nangokuzimisela. Enkulumweni yakhe uSolomo uthe isigceme ngasinye kuzo-

kwakhiwa khona izindlu zangasese ezingamashumi amahlanu (50).

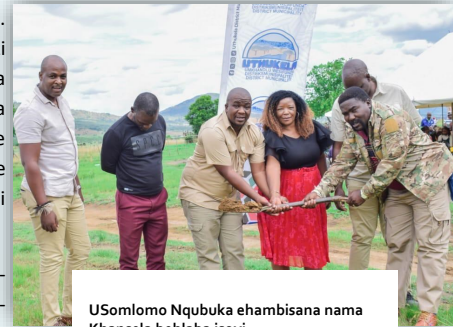
Endaweni yakwaGodi uSomlomo ube esecela uMnu Mcube osebenzela inkampani ezimele ebhekene nokufakwa kwengqalazizinda yamanzi iPawacons, ukuthi achazele umphakathi ngezingqinamba ahlangabezana nazo ngoba ukuxhumeka kwamapayipi aletha amanzi emphakathini kugqoza nje. UM-nuz uMncube ube esebalwa ukuthi isimo sezulu esingesihe kahle senza kungasebenzeki ngendlela eyejwayelekile.

Umsebenzi wokufakelwa kwezindlu zangasese ezinesithunzi kulindeleke ukuba uthathe izinyanga ezintathu ukuwenza. Kuzophinde futhi kwakheke namathuba omsebenzi esikhashana alinganiselwa kwayishu-

minanhlanu (15) isigceme ngasinye. uSomlomo ube esechaza kabanzi ngomsebenzi owenziwa uThukela wathi mibili nje vo, ukuhlinzeka ngamanzi aphuzekayo nahlanzekile kanye nezindlu zangasese ezinesithunzi emiphakathini yasoThukela.

Umhlangano ube usuvalwa uKhan-sela uMvelase ngokubongela amakhansela alezigceme ngalentuthuko elethwe uMkhandlu uThukela. Umphakathi ube usishaye ihlombe isenzo soMkhandlu uThukela. Kube sekuhlathswa isoyi ukuze kuqaliswe lomsebenzi ngokusemthethweni.

USomlomo Nqubuka ubephelekezela amakhansela okubalwa kuwo Cllr Mvelase, Cllr Qwabe, Cllr Buthelezi, Cllr Khoza kanye nabasebenzi boMkhandlu uThukela.



USomlomo Nqubuka ehambisana nama Khansela behlaba isoyi

TOWNSHIP AND RURAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE SEEKS TO TRANSFORM THE INDUSTRY

The uThukela District Municipality Mayor, Inkosi Cllr N B Shabalala, attended the two-day Township and Village Intra-Trade Conference that was held over a period of two days from 13 to 14 November 2025, and hosted by Alfred Duma Local Municipality at Donga La Botique Hotel. The event was organized by the South African Township and Village Tourism Association (SATOVITO), an organization dedicated to promoting tourism experiences and services, particularly in rural and township communities.

SATOVITO aims to transform rural tourism by ensuring that tourism business owners participate meaningfully in the tourism value chain. Their mission includes breaking barriers, addressing gatekeeping, and creating inclusive platforms for emerging enterprises. The conference also marked SATOVITO's fifth anniversary in business. In his welcoming remarks, Alfred Duma Mayor, Cllr Zama Sibisi, shared a brief historical background of uMnam-bithi, highlighting its rich cultural heritage and beautiful tourism sites.

He encouraged all delegates to feel at home in the municipality. The message

of support was delivered by Inkosi Shabalala who thanked SATOVITO for choosing uThukela District as a host destination, and for organizing platforms that empower local enterprises and small business owners. He outlined that while uThukela has an agency that currently does not have access to funding, but it continues to strive toward uplifting communities and strengthening the local economy.

He added that such information-sharing sessions motivated businesses within the district and also highlighted the importance of deepening working relations with Traditional Authorities, as many tourist attractions fall under traditional leadership. The Deputy Minister of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, Hon. Ms. Makhotso Soty, emphasized that the conference is about fostering collaboration, driving growth, and unlocking opportunities in townships and villages.

The Deputy Minister also addressed critical issues affecting the tourism industry, including access to information and funding. She encouraged attendees to step out of their comfort zones and work collectively to drive

inclusive growth and position South Africa's tourism offerings on the world stage. During the cake-cutting ceremony, she also extended warm wishes to SATOVITO on its fifth anniversary.

The programme featured presentations, dialogues, and discussions on tourism development, challenges, and opportunities within the sector. The event was attended by various dignitaries which included members of the Royal House (Princes and Princesses), Councillors, representatives from KZN CoGTA, KZN Tourism, and delegates from Free State, North West, Limpopo Tourism Invest Stokvel, as well as other tourism entities.



Inkosi Shabalala during a walk-about at the stalls

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UTHUKELA PROTECTS SPRINGS TO AUGMENT WATER SUPPLY

The UThukela District Deputy Mayor Cllr MC Mkhize, together with Cllr Mvelase and Cllr Hlongwane visited Mlimeleni and Mamfemfetheni communities in Okhahlamba Local Municipality recently. These visits sought to address issues related to water shortages in these areas. Groundwater is plentiful and these communities are using spring water as their primary water source.



Deputy Mayor Mkhize speaking to the community



In Mlimeleni area, Cllr Mkhize introduced the spring water protection project which will be implemented internally by the UThukela technical team. The purpose of this project is to build the infrastructure required for protecting the water from sources of contamination, creating a collection area where spring water can be easily accessed, and installing 2 jojo tanks to mitigate any re-

-maining water from contamination.

These tanks will then be connected to 10 communal standpipes so that the community will have access to water supply closer to their homes. It's worth noting that springs have been used by local communities as a source of water supply for many years. Community acceptance, low operating and maintenance costs, and ease of community management make springs quite effective for supplying rural communities with water.

Speaking to the community, Deputy Mayor Mkhize said they were supposed to come here last month but it coincided with the visit of the CoGTA Minister. "Today we are here to deliver on our promise that we will supply you with 20 pipes and fittings to the community. 20 more pipes with fittings and 2 Jojo tanks are expected to be delivered the following day. The project will then start on Thursday. This will help to ensure that the challenge of water supply in this area is addressed once and for all," he said.

He then proceeded to Mamfemfetheni where he assured the residents that they were not there to make empty promises but to deliver services. "We are done with one area, so now our focus is on this area. Our goal is to address water supply issues. We are very much concerned about illegal water

connections that are causing water losses. We are here to look at the ways to protect springs as they are important water sources in this area", said the Deputy Mayor. The technical team will do feasibility study, using technology, to determine how water could be elevated to higher lying areas. The Deputy Mayor suggested that the tanks must be alternated between lower and higher lying areas to ensure that water is supplied to all communities.

He said they will need to find a way to monitor the situation. Digging of trenches to lay pipes is expected to begin next Tuesday. By November 15, the project should have been completed and people having access to water supply.



UTHUKELA DISTRICT LAUNCHES 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN ABUSE CAMPAIGN

This year's 16 Days of Activism Against Women and Children Abuse campaign was held at Van Reenen Community Hall, Ward 26 under Alfred Duma Local Municipality. Amongst the guests were Ward Cllr Mkhasibe, Cllr SV Shabalala District First Lady, Abantwana BaseNdlunkulu kwa Shabalala, Induna Shabalala, uThukela Speaker Cllr TY Nqubuka, Municipal Manager LS Jili, EXCO members, local Councilors and all relevant stakeholders who were supporting this important initiative.

The event was planned and hosted by the Van Reenen South African Police Services led by Captain Nxumalo. Welcome remarks were delivered by Induna Shabalala with a brief background of the Shabalala clan. For the past 27 years since it was launched, this campaign has raised awareness about the devastating impact that

Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) has on women and children.

The presentations were done by stakeholders working together which included the Departments of Social Development (DSD), Sports, Arts and Culture (DSAC), South African National Defence Force (SANDF), Community Policing Forum (CPF), Youth Desk and other organizations. These organizations highlighted the causes of GBVF, and wanted to mobilize action at local, national, and international levels to stop all forms of gendered violence.

Captain Nxumalo, on her key note address, said role of South African Police Services includes the protection of citizens' human rights and also prevent unfair discrimination against people based on race and gender. The Government has also passed laws to protect the rights of individuals against any form of abuse as this

normally happens when men abuse power and positions of authority in order to control women and children

Price Nsikayezwe on his closing remarks said all Royal Houses must take part and rid society of abuse permanently. He said the vision is to transform the entire society based on democratic values, social justice and basic human rights, which include women's and children's rights with regard to the scourge of GBV.



Speaker Nqubuka leading a march against gender-based violence



Various stakeholders partaking on the march

